PRESENT—*cont.*

Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sandana Gounder, Mr. I.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

I.—CONDOLENCE MOTION *RE* THE DEATH OF MR. R. FOULKES.

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" Mr. President, Sir, before the work on the agenda of to-day is commenced, it is my melancholy duty to move, with your permission—

> '*that an expression of sincere regret of this Council at the death of one of its esteemed members, the late Mr. Robert Foulkes, be placed on record.*'

" Sir, he was the grandson of the late Mr. George Frederick Fischer who is officially described in the Madura District Gazetteer as 'the last of the great adventurers.' His father, the late Rev. Thomas Foulkes, had three sons. The eldest of them is Mr. G. F. F. Foulkes who owns large estates in the Salem district and is known as the zamindar of that place. Another son of his, Major-General Charles H. Foulkes, Royal Engineers, D.S.O., was in charge of 'gas' operations in France during the Great War, and his book on 'gas' operations has recently been well received, as hon. Members are aware.

" Born in 1873 and educated in Warminster, Wiltshire, England, Mr. Robert Foulkes came out to India at an early age to look after the coffee estates of the family in the Salem district. When Arbuthnot crashed in 1906 and when coffee went through a bad time, he joined the Madras Revenue Survey Department. He was there only for two years when, on the death of his maternal uncle Mr. Robert Fischer in 1908, he resigned his post and went over to Madura to manage the family estates there.

" Mr. Robert Foulkes was appointed member of the Madura District Board on the 29th June 1920 and, within a month after that, he was elected as Vice-President thereof. He was elected as the first non-official President of the Madura District Board four months thereafter and he continued to hold the post without a break till March 1934 when he was appointed Special Officer by the Madras Government to implement the scheme of bifurcation of district boards. During the 13 years of the presidentship, he effected so many improvements in the administration of the board and rendered such good and valuable services to the people of the district that Government congratulated him on the efficient way

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in which he had been conducting the administration of the board. In recognition of his public services he was awarded a second class Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in 1923 and the title of O.B.E. in 1928.

" As president of the district board, he took a keen interest in all matters affecting the improvement of the district—the provision of pure and protected water-supply to the villages, verification of road limits, detection of encroachments, soil sanitation, scientific agriculture, bore-hole latrines, compulsory physical education and so on. He was also responsible for the provision of a magnificent building for the district board office at the cost of over two lakhs of rupees. He got liberal grants and loans from Government during the term of his presidentship for the benefit of the district.

" He was nominated as a member of this Council on the 4th August 1922 and he ever since continued to be a member thereof till his death. He served on the Public Accounts Committee in 1929–30 and 1930–31 and on the select committees on the Madras Services Commission Bill, 1929, on the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill, the Madras Periyar Irrigation Tanks Protection Bill and on Mr. Birley's Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act and the Madras Local Boards Act. Hon. Members are aware of the keen interest he had always taken in the deliberations of this House, especially in matters concerning public health and welfare. He spoke rarely but, whenever he spoke, he was listened to with great attention and respect.

" He passed away on the 24th September 1935 at Madras. He was a much esteemed member of this Council and I know the extent of the sorrow which this House feels for the loss which it has sustained by his death. Sir, I beg to move the motion."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, in seconding this motion, I beg to associate myself with what has fallen from the lips of the Hon. Gentleman, the Leader of the House. Mr. Foulkes was a great personal friend of mine; I feel the loss very much, and it is impossible for me to speak very much on this occasion. His public activities are well known; and his presidentship of the Madura District Board will remain as a red letter as showing the way in which an European non-official administered the affairs of the district board of a district. Mr. Foulkes, though an European, was considered a great friend of the people in Madura, and his help was always available to any one whö chose to go to him on any matter in which he wanted his help. He kept an open house in Madura for any guest and had entertained many distinguished people in his house in Madura. Not only the district of Madura but the whole province mourns the loss of Mr. Foulkes, because he was called a ' clubbable ' man, a great friend not only to Europeans but also to Indians. In his death, the province has lost a very distinguished public worker and public servant."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I am grateful to you, Mr. President, for having given me an opportunity to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House and the

Leader of the Opposition. As Minister in charge of Local Self-Government, I can testify to the keen interest Mr. Foulkes had always evinced in the administration of local boards and the efficient manner in which he had conducted them. Even after he had ceased to be the President of the Madura District Board, he continued to take a keen and abiding interest in the problems of local self-government and the betterment of the condition of the people in the villages. I have also had the good fortune to be associated with him in my official capacity, when he was placed on special duty with reference to the bifurcation of district boards. I can testify to the valuable services he had rendered to Government during that short period. Mr. Foulkes, although a European, had associated himself so much with the people—of the district in particular and the presidency in general—that they had always come to regard him as one among them. He had always, as has been said by the Leader of the Opposition, extended his hospitality to everyone without distinction of caste or creed. There can be no greater testimony to his popularity than his election to the District Board of Madura consecutively for a series of years, and he had always carried the confidence of the board and received the fullest co-operation at the hands of his colleagues. When I last had the pleasure of meeting him during the budget session, he was as keen as ever before in the future administration of local boards, and I never expected that his end was so near. With these words, I have pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Mover and seconder of this motion."

Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. President, I beg to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. Mr. Foulkes' name is very popular now, particularly in Madura. He had been a valuable Member of this House, and though he was not one who participated in the debates very often, yet whenever he took part, he was very effective. I may say he was very popular with all sections of the House and wielded considerable influence.

" The most noteworthy feature of his career is his election to the presidentship of the District Board of Madura. As the first non-official European to be elected to a representative body like the Madura District Board, and as its President for 14 years he had done very useful service, and the encomiums paid to him by all persons, including Governors of provinces, are a sufficient testimony to his merits. He identified himself with the interests and aspirations of the rural population. I should say his career is an illustration of how a non-official European could identify himself with the interests of the people amongst whom he lives. There was one thing in his private life which I should like to mention. He was always generous in his dealings and very hospitable. I think I could say he was the Prince of Madura."

Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—" Mr. President, I beg to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. I have always appreciated the work Mr. Foulkes did in this Council. He was an

example of what a President of the district board could do and how he could interest himself in the affairs of the people and be in constant touch with them."

* Mr. W. K. M. Langley:—"Mr. President, I should like to associate my group and myself with this mournful resolution. The late Mr. Foulkes was not a member of this group although an European. He was a nominated member and as such he maintained a very high and independent attitude. Although he was not a member of our group, we had some sort of reflected satisfaction that he was any way a member of this House as we felt that he raised definitely by his presence the dignity of the Europeans in this House. Sufficient has already been said about Mr. Foulkes' public career. I should like to refer just briefly to the private side of his life. I am specially qualified to do so, because shortly after I came to this country, about 30 years ago, the late Mr. Foulkes was appointed to Malabar as Land Records Officer, and from that date until his death he was one of my greatest friends in India. He was an exceptionally many-sided man. There was hardly any form of sport or intellectual pursuit in which he did not excel. He was a fine tennis player, a very fine billiards player and a brilliant cricketer as anybody associated with cricket in this presidency some years ago is well aware. Apart from that, he was a wonderful lover of nature; the whole of nature was an open book to him; and to take a walk with Mr. Foulkes or to spend an evening in his company was in itself liberal education. We mourn his loss deeply, and we feel that one has departed who represented the very best possible type of non-official European in this country."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"Mr. President, Sir, as an Indian Christian Member of this House, I wish to join in the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. Mr. Foulkes had a remarkable personality and he was popular with everybody. It has been said that Europeans do not enter into the political and social currents in this country sufficiently. That charge cannot be made against Mr. Foulkes. He made himself acquainted with all the wants of the people and took a very sympathetic view of them. The success which attended his efforts was due to this fact. The recognition that he obtained, not from Europeans only but from all classes of people, was due to the keen interest not only in the administrative problems of local bodies but also in the social and political problems of the country. If other Europeans also took the same interest in our affairs, the same success would be theirs and we shall immensely value the European element in our social work and in the work of the local bodies. With these few words I support the motion before the House." 11-15 a.m.

Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Mr. President, on behalf of the depressed classes I would like to associate myself with what has been ably said by the previous speakers. Mr. Robert Foulkes was a friend of the poor and the depressed classes. This fact was well known to the depressed classes from the time he was elected as President of the Madura District Board. Although attempts were made to persuade

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the depressed class members not to vote for him, they solidly voted for him knowing his sympathy for them. During the last nine years of my membership of this Council, whenever I had occasion to consult him, I was able to get the best advice from him. Apart from that, his work as Special Officer has been much appreciated and his advice has been considered to be very valuable. It is a great pity that it is not given to him to see the new Reforms in operation. With these few words I associate myself with the feelings expressed in this House on this motion."

Mr. Yakub Hasan :—" Mr. President, after the speech of Dr. Subbarayan which shows how popular Mr. Foulkes was with all sections of Indians, I need not rise to speak at all; but still, I think as a Muhammadan, I should also say a word. Sir, his popularity was not confined to any one section or two; all the people, especially of Madura, loved him as one of them. In fact it was difficult to imagine that he was a non-Indian. He was in India for such a length of time and he identified himself with Indian interests so much that but for his colour he would have been rightly considered an Indian. Sir, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the other speakers and express the personal loss that all of us in this House as well as outside feel at the death of Mr. Foulkes."

The motion was put and carried *nem. con*, the whole House standing.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Prisons and Prisoners

Representations for the transfer to Bengal of Mr. Mukundalal Sircar, a prisoner confined in the Central Jail at Salem.

* 218 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any applications or oral representations have been received recently for the transfer of Mr. Mukundalal Sircar, a prisoner in the Central Jail at Salem, to any of the Bengal jails; if so, when and from whom;

(*b*) what orders have been passed thereon and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table;

(*c*) if the Government have objected to the transfer, what the reasons are therefor;

(*d*) what the full and aggregate term is of imprisonment he was sentenced to;

(*e*) what the names are of prisons in this Presidency in which he has been so far kept and what the term is of his detention in each of the said prisons; and

(*f*) what his weights were at the time of admission in and at the time of leaving each prison and what his present weight is?